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Energy & Environmental Research Center (EERC)

# CarbonSAFE North Dakota – Early Successes

DOE Award DE-FE0031889

2021 AIChE Annual Meeting

Virtual

November 18, 2021

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Assistant Director for Subsurface Strategies

# North Dakota CarbonSAFE Project Overview

- Performance dates:
  - BP1: September 2020 – August 2022
  - BP2: September 2022 – August 2023



Industrial Commission of North Dakota  
Lignite Research, Development and  
Marketing Program



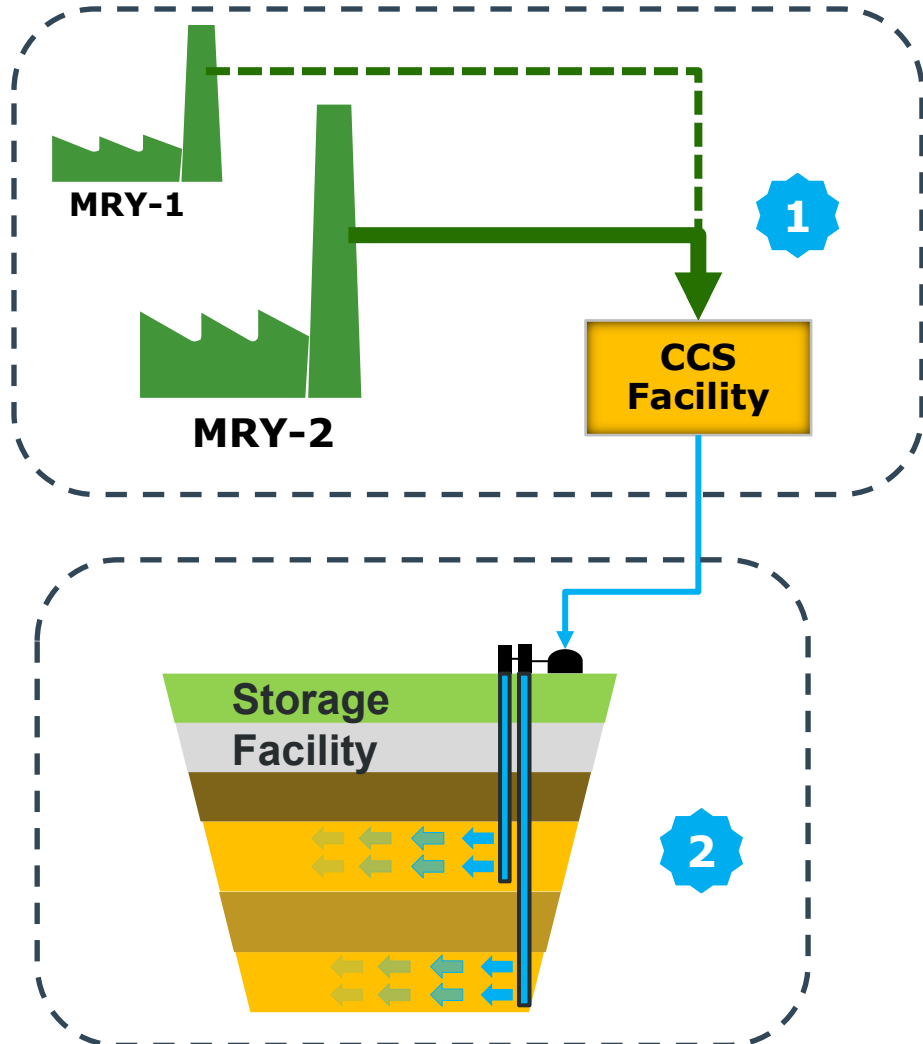
# North Dakota CarbonSAFE Phase III: Site Characterization and Permitting

## 3-year Project

- Geologic characterization
- Lab analysis of rock and fluids
- Geophysical surveying and modeling
- Baseline monitoring (water and soil)
- North Dakota storage facility permit development



# Project Tundra Overview



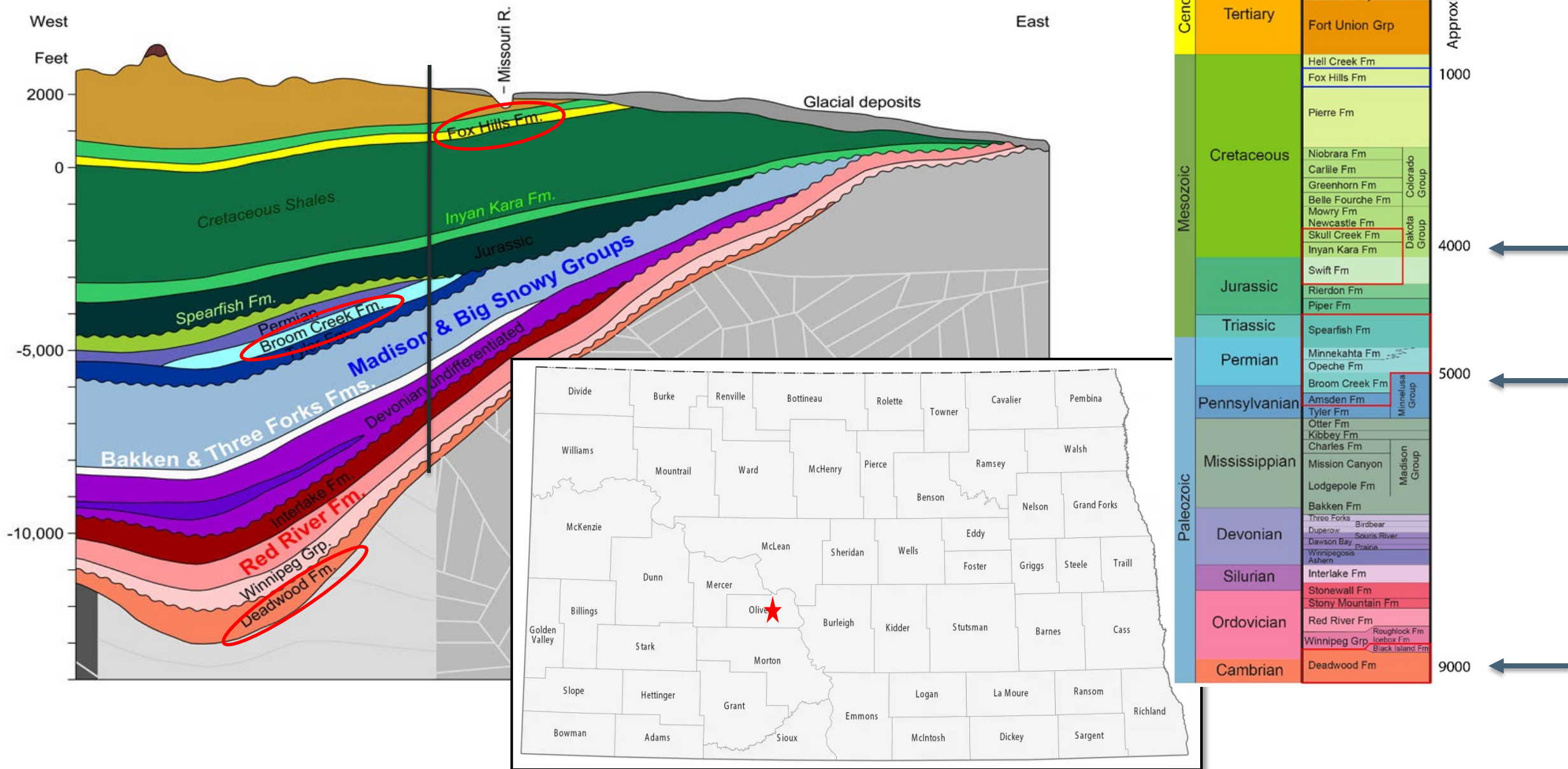
## Two Projects in One

1. **Divert flue gas then separate CO<sub>2</sub>** in a carbon capture system that strips out the CO<sub>2</sub> then liquifies under pressure.
2. **Inject CO<sub>2</sub> into storage formation** over a mile below lignite mine.

**No impact on the power plant  
and no impact on its costs.**



# Project Location



# Technical Approach

Major NDIC Permitting Requirements	Major Proposed Characterization Activities								
	Core	Logging	Downhole Testing	Lab Testing	Modeling	Simulation	Seismic Collection	Baseline Sampling	New Fox Hills Wells
Determine Plume Extent	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Determine Pore Space Amalgamation	X	X	X		X	X	X		
Geologic Properties of Injection and Confining Zones	X	X	X	X					
Regional Faulting Assessment	X						X		
Potential for Seismic Activity			X		X		X		
Geologic Maps and Cross Sections		X			X		X		X
Geomechanics of Confining Zones(s)		X	X	X	X				
Identify and Characterize Secondary Confining Zones		X	X		X		X		
Determine Area of Review		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Baseline Geochemical Data	X			X				X	X
Baseline Water and Soil Data				X				X	X



Center, ND  
(Pop. 588)

1 mile

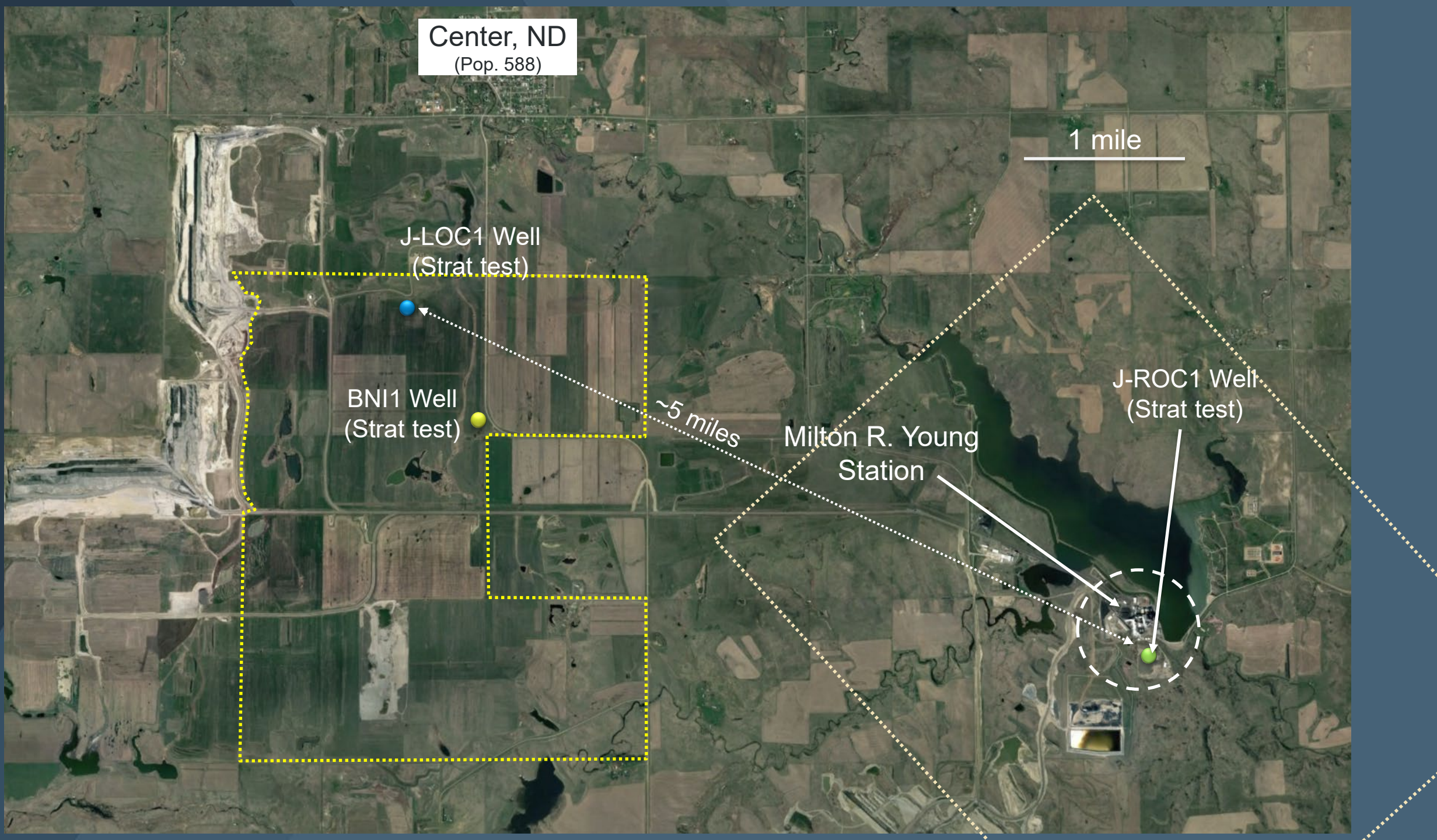
J-LOC1 Well  
(Strat test)

BNI1 Well  
(Strat test)

~5 miles

Milton R. Young  
Station

J-ROC1 Well  
(Strat test)



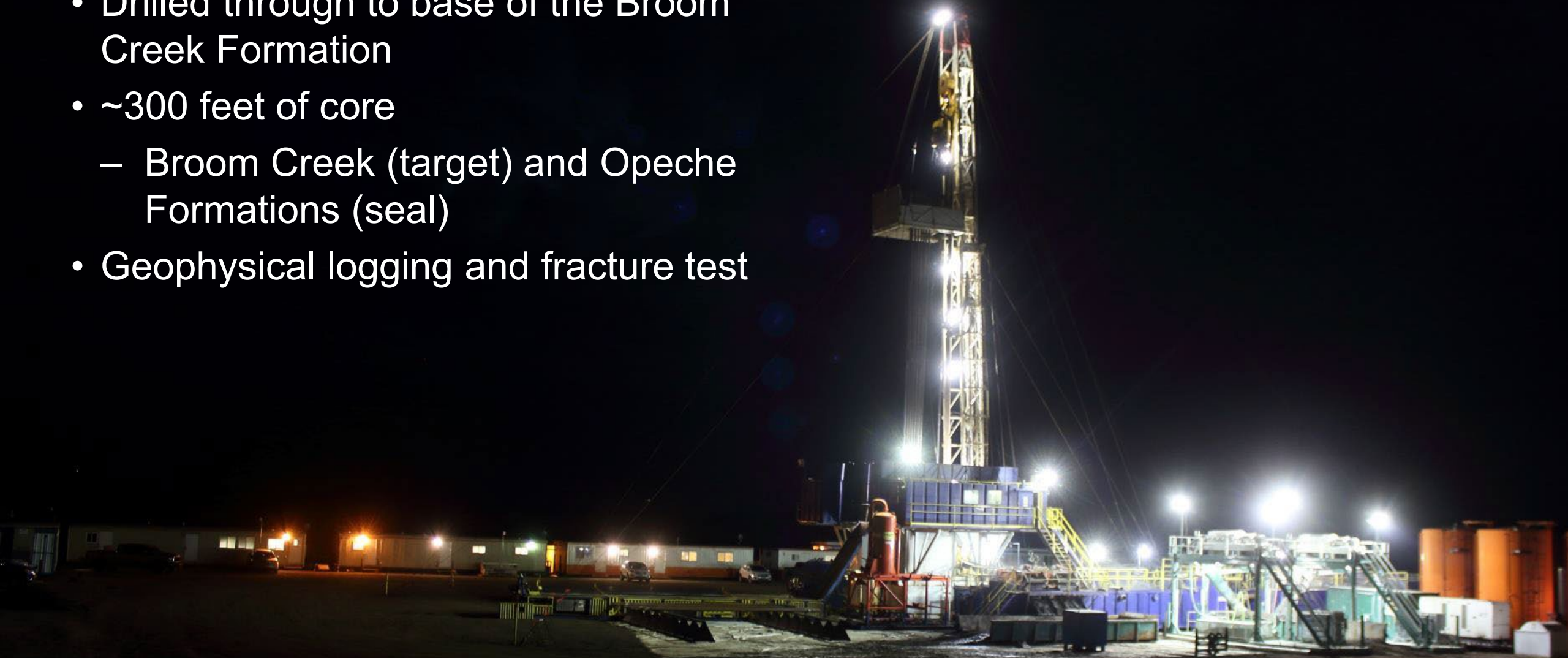






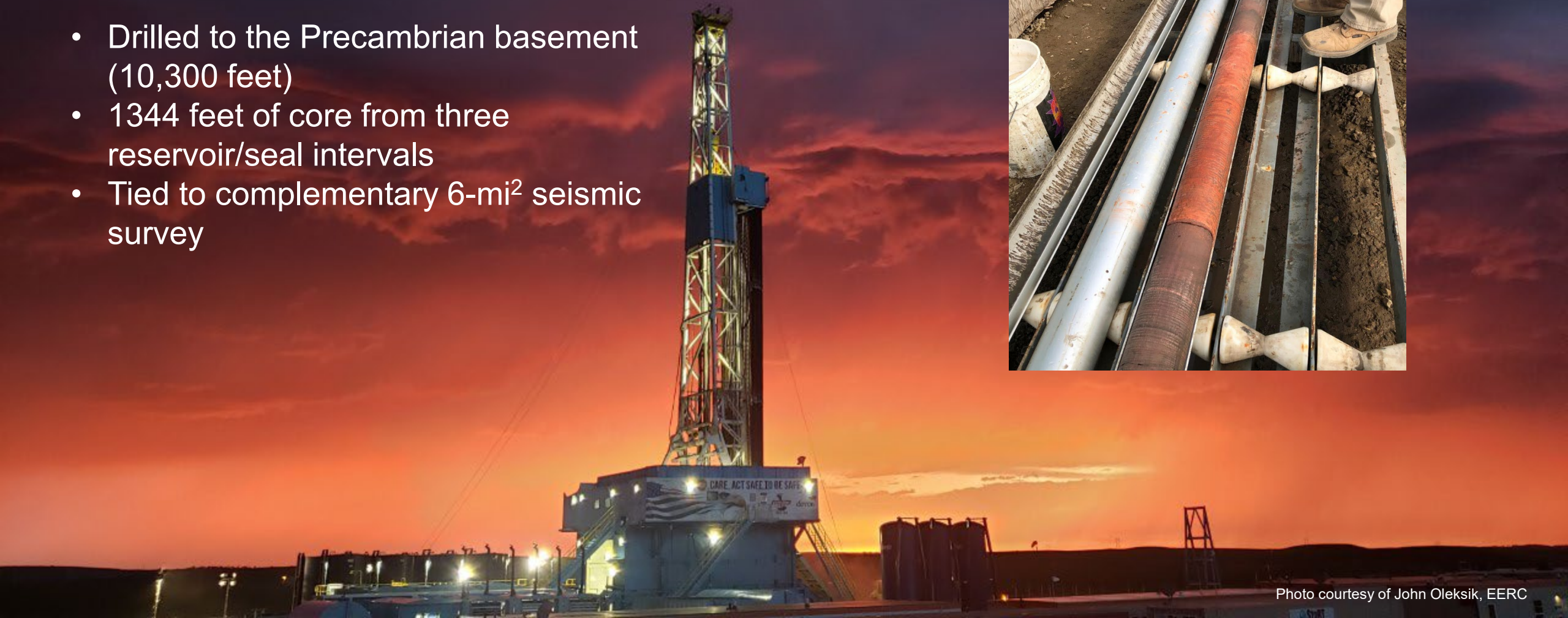
# BNI-1 Well (CARBONsafe Phase II)

- Drilled through to base of the Broom Creek Formation
- ~300 feet of core
  - Broom Creek (target) and Opeche Formations (seal)
- Geophysical logging and fracture test



# J-LOC1 Well

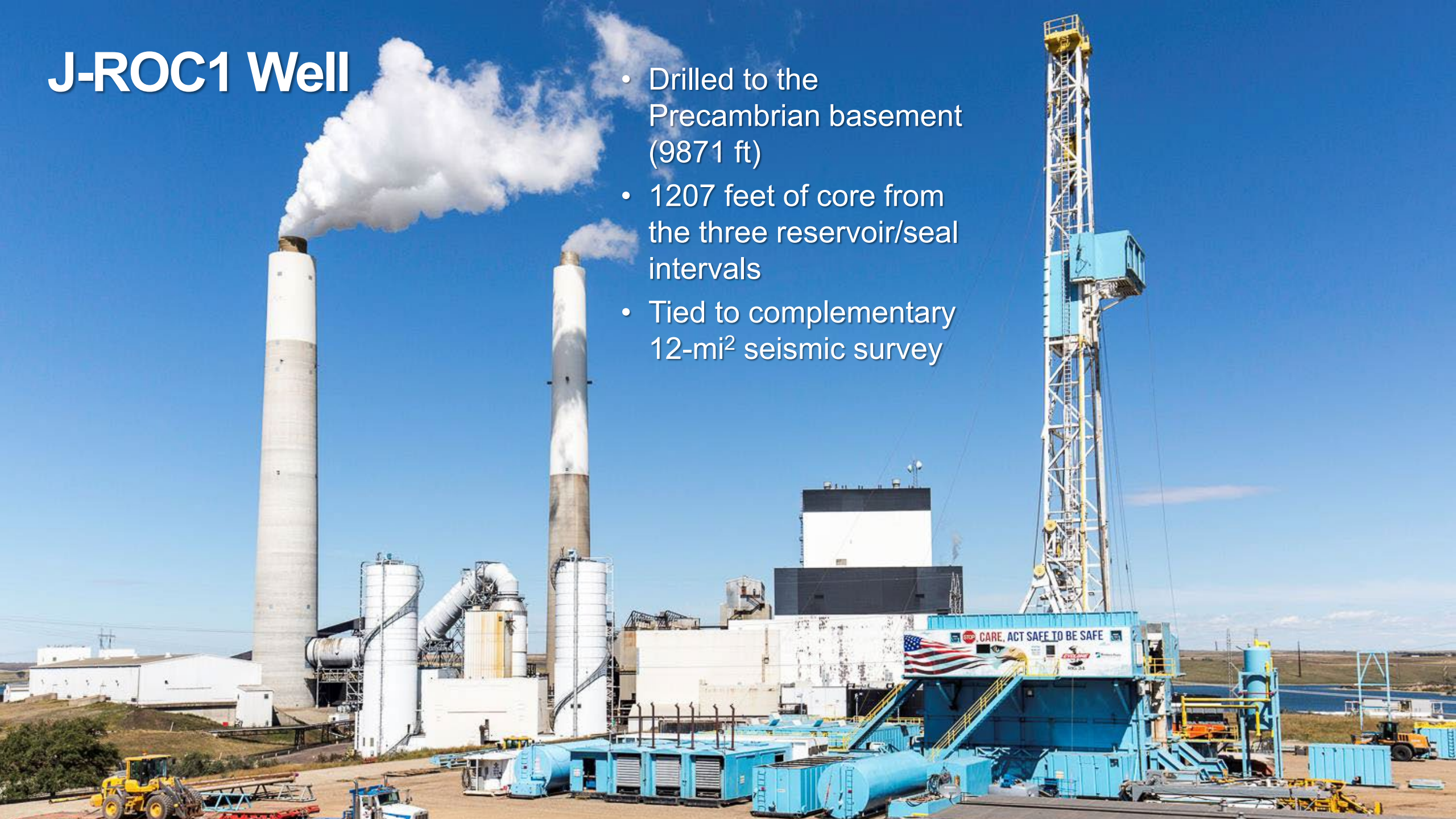
- Drilled to the Precambrian basement (10,300 feet)
- 1344 feet of core from three reservoir/seal intervals
- Tied to complementary 6-mi<sup>2</sup> seismic survey





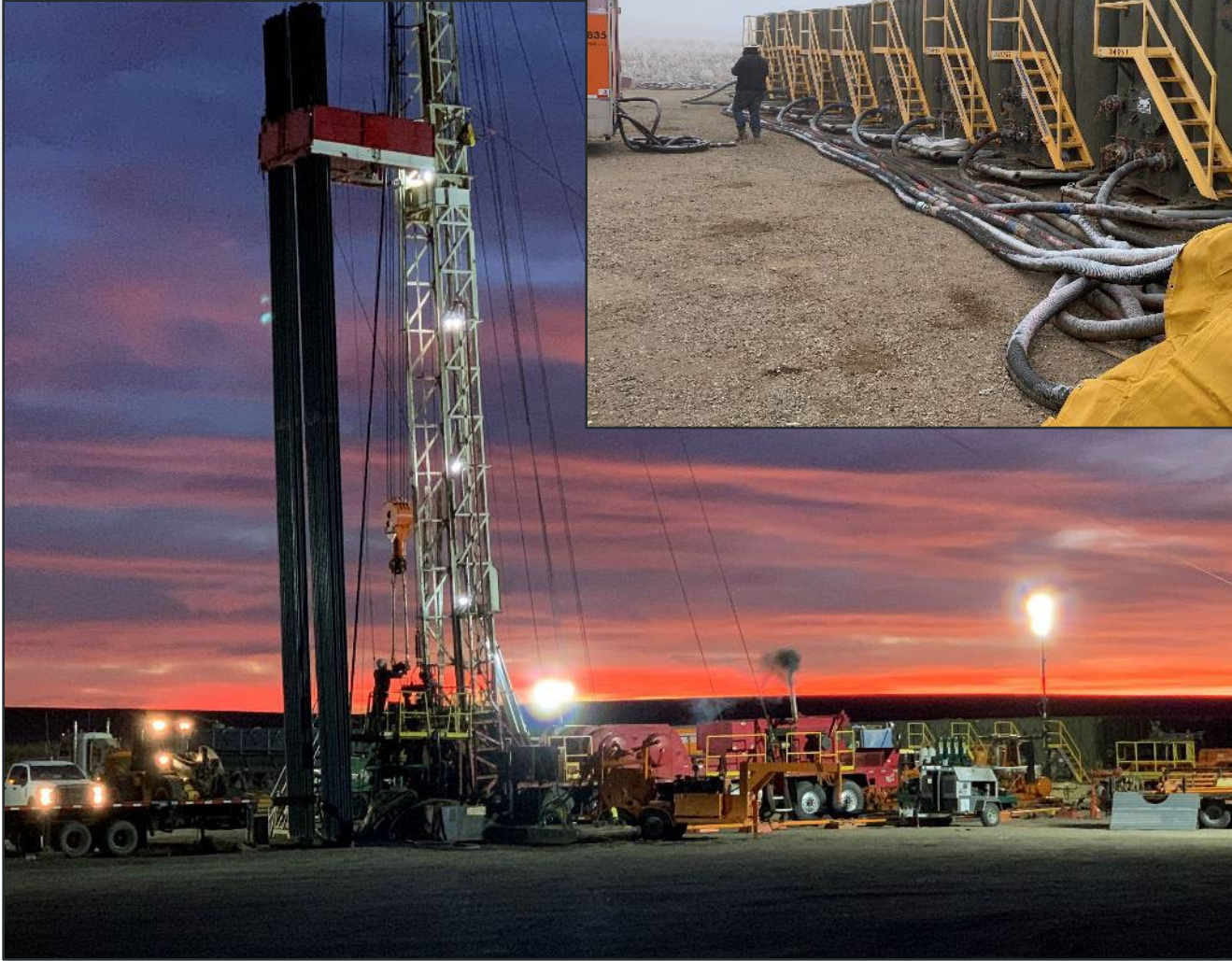
# J-ROC1 Well

- Drilled to the Precambrian basement (9871 ft)
- 1207 feet of core from the three reservoir/seal intervals
- Tied to complementary 12-mi<sup>2</sup> seismic survey





# Step Rate Injection Tests





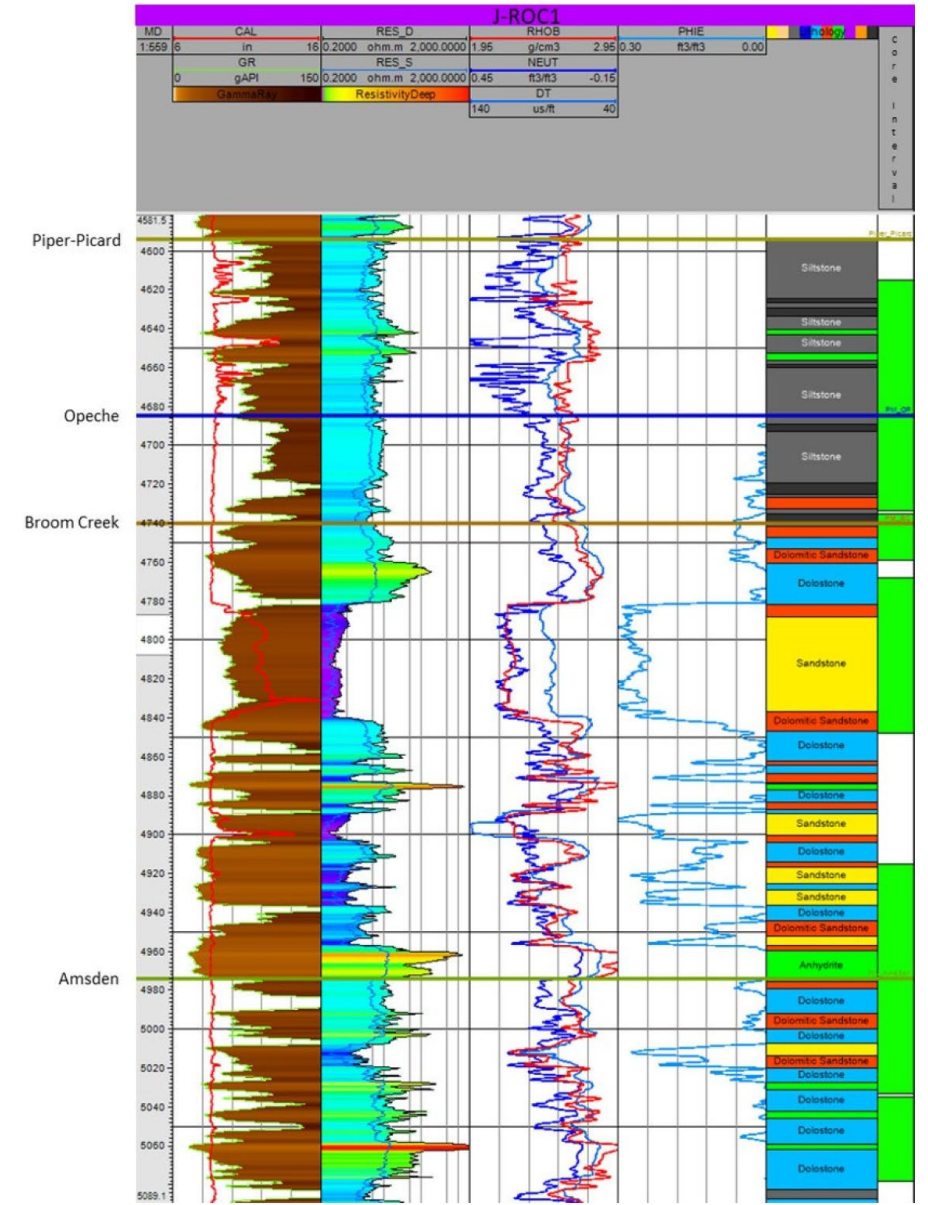


### Geologic Properties

Formation	Property	Simulation Model	
		Laboratory Analysis	Property Distribution
Broom Creek (sandstone)	Porosity, %*	19.51 (2.46–27.38)	21.4 (1.0–36.0)
	Permeability, mD**	69.29 (0.06–2,690)	168.8 (0.0–8,601.1)
Broom Creek (dolostone)	Porosity, %	8.11 (5.48–8.97)	5.8 (0.0–18.0)
	Permeability, mD	0.03 (0.02–0.05)	0.13 (0.0–2,259.6)

\* Porosity values are reported as the arithmetic mean followed by the range of values in parentheses.

\*\* Permeability values are reported as the geometric mean followed by the range of values in parentheses.





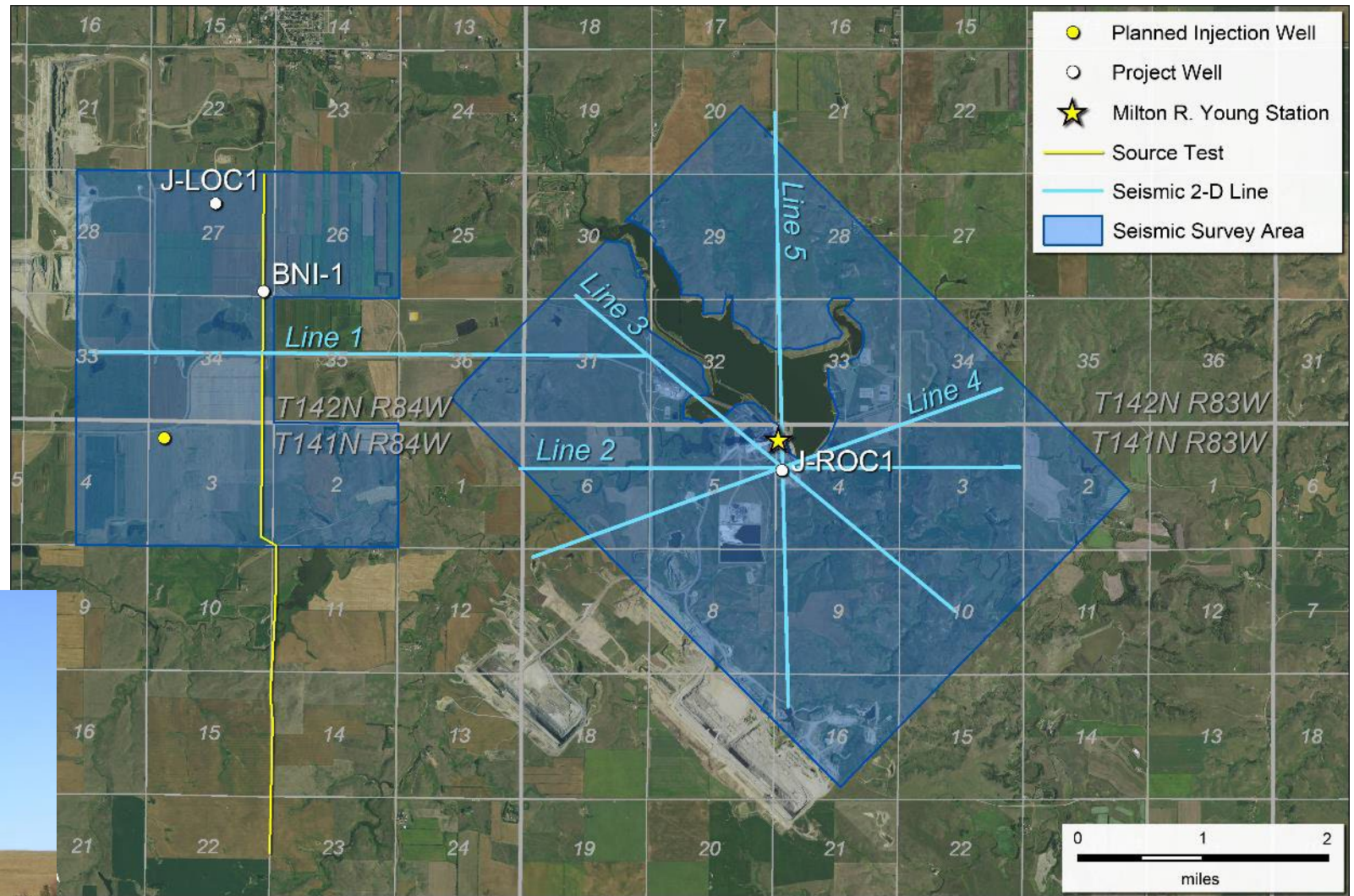
# Seismic Surveys





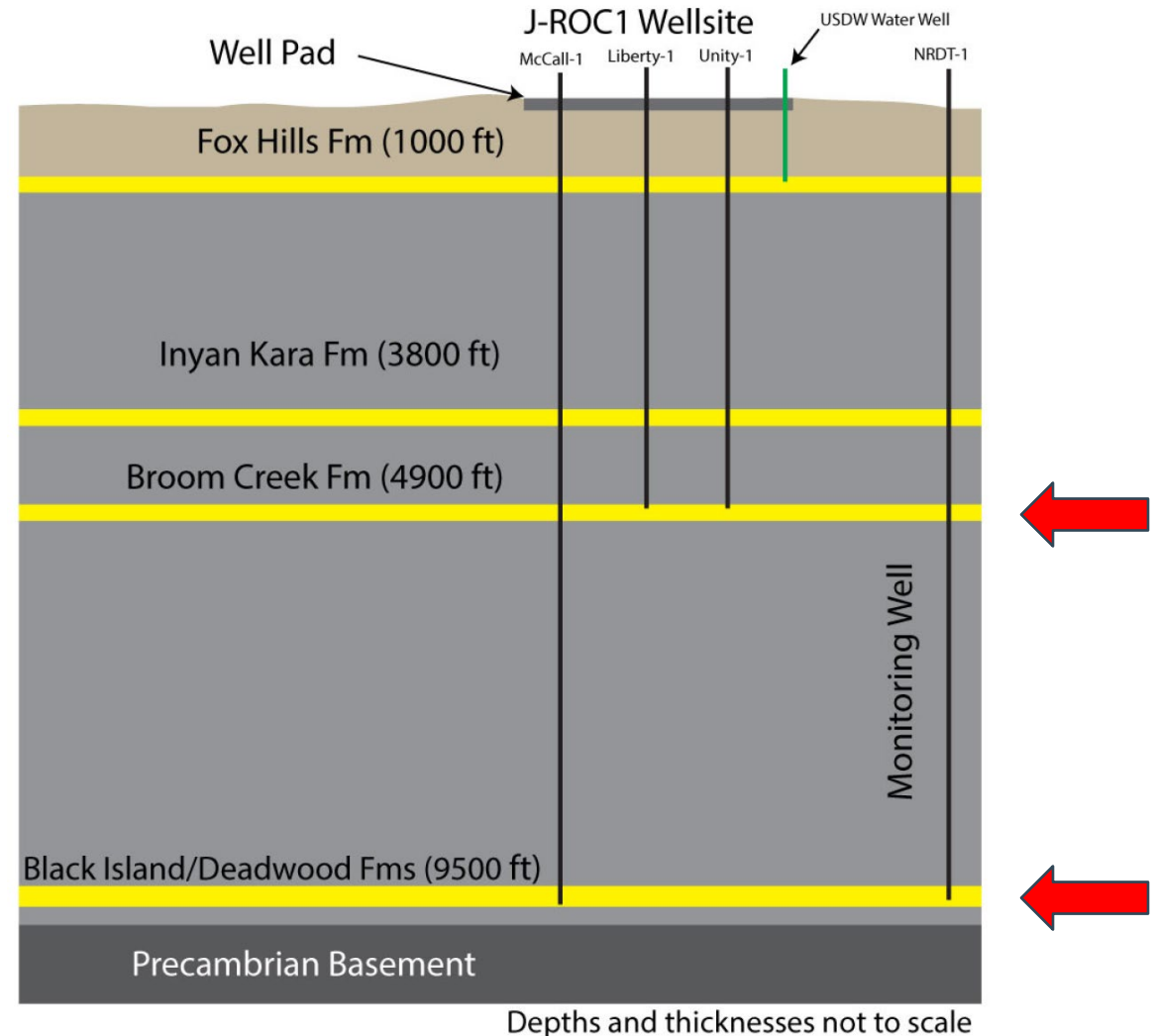
# Seismic Data

- 2019
  - 5-mi source test line
  - 6.7 mi<sup>2</sup> of 3D seismic data
- 2020
  - 12 mi<sup>2</sup> of 3D seismic data
  - 20 mi of 2D seismic data



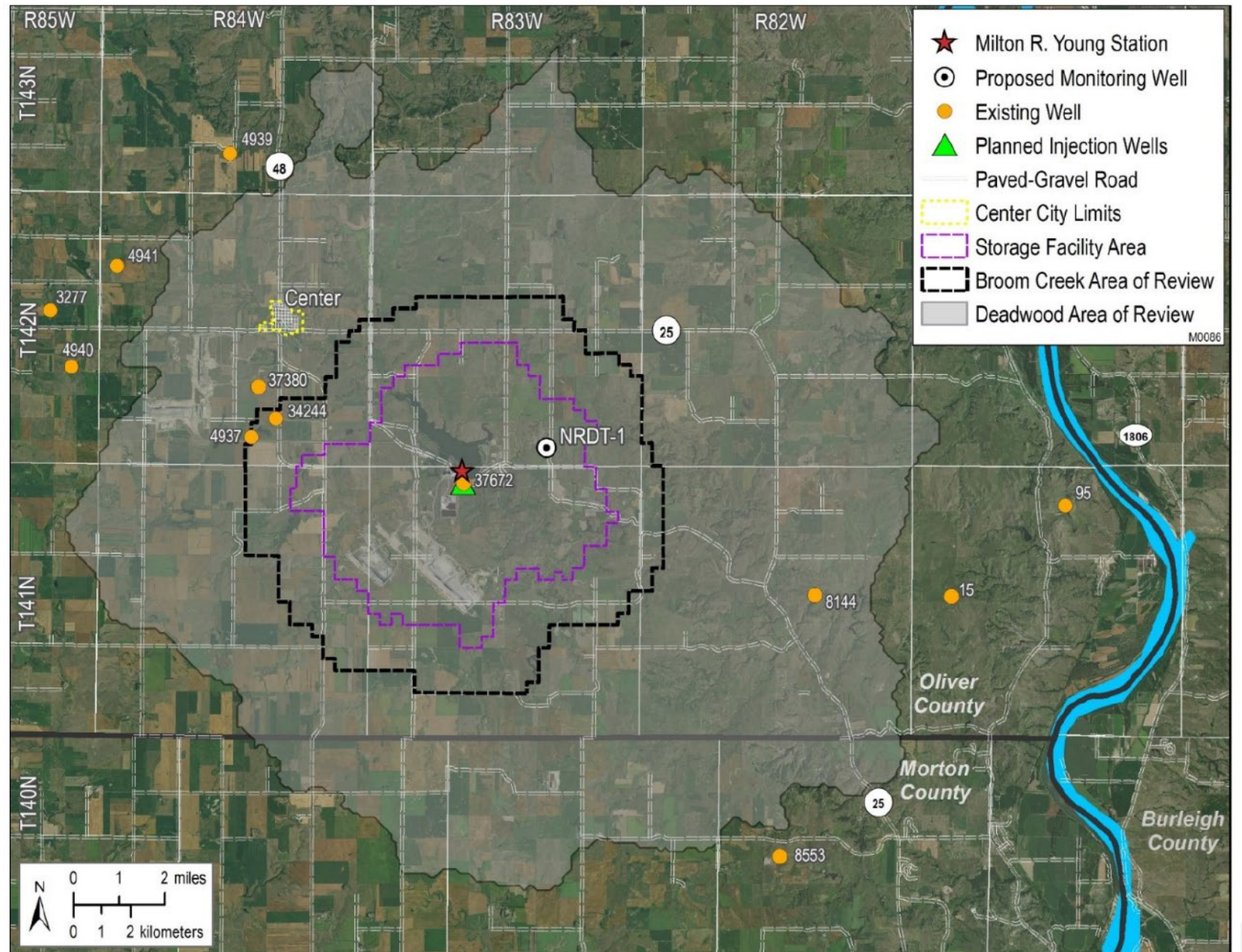
# General Project Configuration

- Stacked storage beneath the power plant
- Very short pipeline
- Storage facility permit application for each target horizon





# Project Tundra CO<sub>2</sub> Storage Area Map



# North Dakota Administrative Code for CO<sub>2</sub> Storage



- Defined timeline for issuing a final decision on a storage facility permit application
- Amalgamation of pore space and procedure to include nonconsenting owners
- Postinjection title transfer (long-term liability)
- Establishment of trust funds to manage the long-term liability



# Latest Successes!

- May 28: Two storage facility permit applications submitted (600 pages each).
- September 23: Two draft storage facility permits established (North Dakota permit applications deemed to be complete).
- November 4: 7.5 hours of testimony in front of the North Dakota Industrial Commission to address the permit requests.
- November 16: Requested supplemental material submitted.
- Fingers crossed...final North Dakota permit approval before mid-February.







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A wide-angle photograph of a university campus. In the foreground, there are large trees with yellowing leaves, suggesting autumn. The sun is low on the left, creating a bright glow. In the background, there are several large, multi-story brick buildings, likely university halls or administrative buildings. A parking lot with many cars is visible in front of the buildings. The sky is a pale blue.

**THANK YOU**

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